

Mr. Dominguez was an employee of the Swiss-American Cable Way Co., which has contract for excavation for a restaurant and dance hall at the top of the falls.

Horrified witnesses saw the caterpillar tractor hurtle downward from the rim to a point below the falls, some 1600 feet[500 meters?] from the rim. Five men were working with him on the rim at the time. The area of operation is about 25 by 40 feet[8 by 12 meters].

Things shut down for awhile, then in the spring and summer of 1963, the dance hall and restaurant were finally finished. Not long after that, Rue Clegg and his wife Margret went to Mexico for a warm vacation. During that trip, Clegg died of a heart attack. Margret then ran the business for two or three years before selling it to Alpine Engineering. Still later, brothers David and Steve Grow bought the company in 1974 and the Grow families have run the operation ever since.

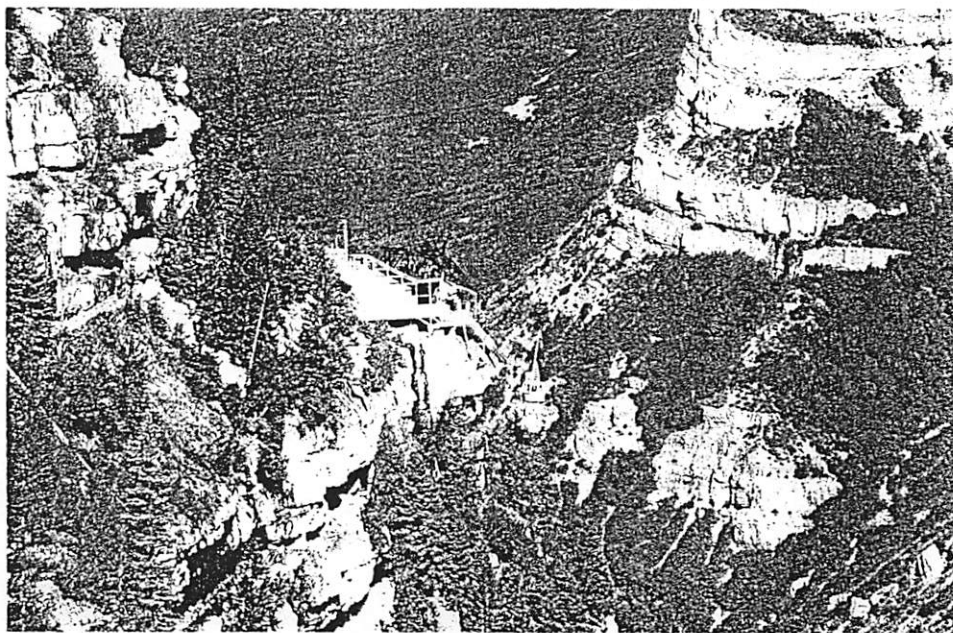
At Bridal Veil Falls Resort today, you will find a gift and curio shop featuring handicrafts by local artisans in the same building as the lower terminal of the Skytram. Nearby are several tables and a snack bar in an old railway caboose, which was built in 1942 and used for over 43 years by the Union Pacific Railroad. There is a large paved parking lot, and a foot bridge you can use to reach the other side of the river. You can take one trail which runs to a small duck and fish pond below the falls, and another trail running about 500 meters to near the base of the falls themselves. All the lower terminal facilities are on private land, but part of the upper lodge and terminal is on Forest Service land.

At the upper terminal called the Rocky Top Lodge, the original full-service restaurant was closed in 1968. However, during the summer season there are still public dances at the upper terminal on Saturday nights. It can also be reserved by various groups for private meetings. There are also two short trails; one heading to an overlook of Utah Valley, the other to the creek and forest to the east of the falls. Both trails have interesting views of the canyon and are worth the time to walk.

The Bridal Veil Falls Resort is open from about May 15 to October 15 each year. Opening and closing dates can change, so you might call ahead at 225-4461, if you want to ride the tram. This world's steepest Skytram does not operate in rainy or windy conditions for safety reasons.

Extending west from the base of the falls on the south side of the Provo River, is a very long and narrow park. It's called Bridal Veil Falls Park. It's about half a km long and ends at the highway where a parking lot is situated. The land is owned by Provo City, but they lease it to Dave Grow and the Scenic Canyon Preservation Society for \$1 a year. The money for improvements and maintenance has been provided by a Provo River Trail Committee and the Bridal Veil Falls Resort Company.

About a km above Bridal Veil Falls and right where the small stream from **Upper Falls** comes down to the Provo River, is where Lyman L. Donnan set up a homestead late in the 1800's, probably in



The top of the Skytram with the lower slopes of Timp on the right in background.

From Michael Relsey



Fisherman's Home as it appeared in the winter of 1936(Bertha McKean Offret foto).



The same Fisherman's Home during the flood of July 1938(Bertha McKean Offret fotos).

1899. In 1904 he officially got title to the 65 hectares(160 acres) of river-front land. He lived there and slowly developed a small resort called **Donnan's Place** or **Upper Falls Resort**. It was a small lodge or inn with a store and restaurant and about 10 small summer cabins to rent for the night, a weekend, or a week. The place became famous for trout dinners.

Here is what a June, 1923 ad in the Provo Daily Herald had to say: *UPPER FALLS RESORT-Provo Canyon. Furnished Bungalow and Board, \$3 per day, \$15 per week. Tents with screen wire kitchenette, \$5 to \$7 per week. Trout Dinners and Spring Fry Dinners our Specialties DONNAN'S PLACE.* The site of the resort was located not far below the present-day Olmsted Diversion Dam. The last entry for either Lyman or Dolly Donnan in the county court records was October, 1944. At that time they sold all of their property to Provo City. Today Provo City still owns the land, but the county runs Upper Falls as a day-use only picnic park.

Another little waystation along the scenic Provo Canyon Highway was **Fisherman's Home**. It was a small store and restaurant, which catered to fishermen, picnickers and especially beer drinkers. It was first built after about 1933 by Billy Williams. He lived across the road in the small cabin which is presently on the north side of the road. Fisherman's Home was built near the river just after F.D. Roosevelt came to office and Prohibition ended. The local people referred to it as another *beer joint*.

The site of this tavern was in the general area as the old Ferguson Ranch, which was also apparently the home of the "Toll Gate Keeper" on the old Provo Canyon Road at one time. It's also where a giant snowslide came down in February, 1897, which killed Billy Ferguson and wiped out his home. Read more details on that event in the chapter *Tragedies on Mt. Timpanogos*.

In the summer of 1938, the Fisherman's Home was severely damaged by the flooding of the Provo River. A thunder storm on Wednesday, July 13, 1938, brought mud, rocks and trees down out of Snowslide Canyon blocking the river. For a short period of time a lake developed behind the dam and many homes were flooded in Vivian Park. The same storm also stranded campers in Provo Canyon and made another small lake at Wicks. Much later in time this area was owned by Leon Frazier. Today the Frazier family has built a summer-time resting place called **Frazier Park** in the same general location. In summer, someone operates a small store and fruit stand there.

The next significant location or landmark going up-canyon is at the lower end of the South Fork of Provo River and at what is known today as **Vivian Park**. According to Eugene Campbell's History of

